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Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand highlights student activism at town hall event

by Laura Hornby '20
Staff Writer

On Monday, Nov. 18, New York Senator Kirsten Gillibrand visited Hamilton's campus to hold a town hall event in the Chapel. Senator Gillibrand answered questions from students, faculty, and community members as she emphasized the importance of student activism and civic engagement.

Originally from the Albany area, Senator Gillibrand holds an undergraduate degree from Dartmouth and a law degree from UCLA. She was previously a member of the House of Representatives from 2007-2009 representing New York's 20th district. She was selected by Governor David Paterson to fill the open Senate seat after Hillary Clinton was appointed as Secretary of State and has served in the position since.

The Levitt Center worked with College President David Wippman's office and Senator Gillibrand's office to organize her visit. Marianne Janack, director of the Levitt Center, said this event fits well with the Levitt Center's mission of public affairs.

"Helping to organize a public event for students to meet with and ask questions of a New York State Senator fit nicely with what we do regularly," she said. "We at the Levitt Center think that helping students to understand and work within political contexts is an important aspect of what we can offer, and we're always happy to be able to show people how smart and thoughtful Hamilton students are, too."

President Wippman introduced the senator, who has an extensive history of involvement with upstate New York. This was not her first visit to the Hill — her brother graduated from Hamilton in 1987.

Senator Gillibrand began the town hall by describing her excitement to speak to a group of students who will contribute to and lead the debate on various issues in the future, including topics like gun control and climate change. She called for young people to demand better from their elected officials in order to end negative rhetoric, racial violence, and "shut down" hate.

Reflecting on Gillibrand's visit, Miranda Harrigan '22 said, "It is so wonderful to be able to have politicians come speak to us at Hamilton, especially Gillibrand since she has been here before, has a personal connection to Hamilton, and continues to come again. It was an honor to listen to her."

Samantha Gordon '19 agreed about the significance of Gillibrand's visit and her interactions with students: "Gillibrand's emphasis on engaging student voters and supporting student activism work, such as the March for our Lives and the protests at Syracuse, was very meaningful. At the same time, it is important for her and other politicians to hear what issues are important to students."

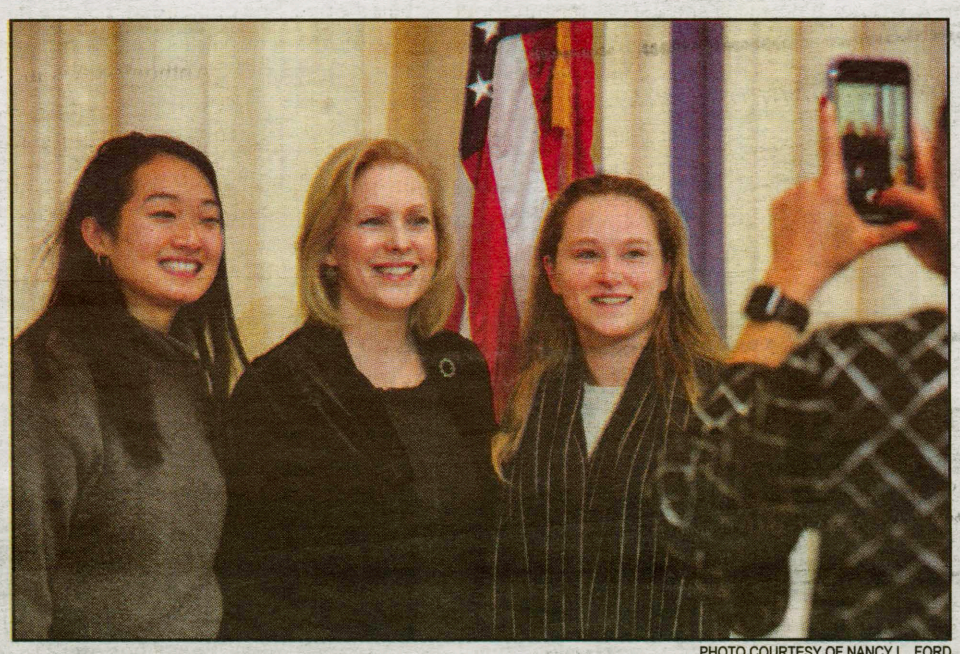

PHOTO COURTESY OF NANCY L. FORD

Joyce Lee '20 (left) and Mary Kate McNeil '20 (right) pose for a picture with Senator Gillibrand on Monday in the Chapel.

To start the Q&A session, members of the Sunrise Movement asked Gillibrand about her position on the proposed Green New Deal legislation. Gillibrand responded that she supports the goals of the bill, referencing that her presidential platform included an aggressive climate plan that called for increasing green energy jobs, guaranteeing clean air and water, and using solar, wind, geothermal or biofuels for energy instead of fossil fuels. In addition, she said her plan made a point of denying campaign contributions from the fossil

*see **Gillibrand**, page 2*

HAVOC sponsors children's gift requests with annual Mitten Tree Fundraiser

by Erica Ivins '21
Staff Writer

This week marks the return of the Hamilton Association for Volunteering, Outreach, and Charity's (HAVOC) Mitten Tree Fundraiser. In the spirit of the holiday season, this project intends to provide gifts for less fortunate children.

At this annual event, HAVOC decorates a tree with cut-out paper mittens labelled with gift requests from children ranging from ages 2 to 16. In the past, kids have asked for clothes, games, puzzles, trucks, dolls, and other toys.

Detailing the history of the event, co-director of HAVOC Jonina Mignon '21 said, "It's an annual event that HAVOC sponsors every year, in which we cut out paper mittens that are labeled with a child's gift request for the holiday season and hang them as ornaments on a little tree. People can then pick a mitten from the tree, and choose to sponsor that child by getting that gift, which is due in December."

Mignon said that HAVOC welcomes students, staff, and faculty to participate in the fundraiser to fulfill these children's holiday wishes.

"Any and all community members are encouraged to swing by to check it out!" said Mignon.

According to members of HAVOC, the gifts purchased by community members go to children with special needs in the local upstate New York area.

"The HAVOC mitten tree gifts go to Johnson Park Center and Upstate Cerebral Palsy." said Director of Community Outreach Amy James. "At Johnson Park Center, for example, many of the parents don't have the resources to get their kids something they really want for the holidays, so Hamilton students have an opportunity to provide that special gift."

The Community Outreach and Opportunity Project (COOP) often collaborates with HAVOC on this event and other fundraisers like it to support less fortunate community members facing issues like poverty or poor health.

"The COOP runs a gift drive as well, which is more for faculty and staff," said Senior COOP intern Devin Hebert. "Our gifts go to Hospice and Palliative Care and House of the Good Shepherd. The COOP's gift drive is advertised to employees via e-mail, which will be sent out on Wednesday."

As an organizer of the fundraiser, James emphasized the importance of Hamilton's involvement in the surrounding community off the Hill, especially as it relates to holiday giving.

"It's important for the Hamilton community to recognize needs in the surrounding area at a time of year when they can feel so much more pronounced," said James. "It's also a time of year when students may feel particularly stressed out, and giving to others can really offer some perspective."

HAVOC will host a table for the Mitten Tree fundraiser all week from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM in various locations across campus from Monday through Thursday. The fundraiser occurred in the Science Center Atrium on Monday, November 18 and in the Howard Diner on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 19 and 20. It will be held in McEwen Dining Hall on Thursday, November 21.

Students, faculty, and staff can find more information regarding the fundraiser in the campus-wide email sent out by HAVOC about the event. HAVOC encourages the Hamilton community to reach out to its co-directors, Jada Langston '20 and Mignon, via email with questions or comments.

Levitt Center hosts a question and answer session with Senator Gillibrand

*from **Gillibrand**, page 1*

fuel industry. She added that environmental reform helps achieve intersectional change, and that expanding sustainable public housing will also provide higher access to affordable housing.

Known as an outspoken advocate of the #MeToo movement, Gillibrand reflected on the backlash and isolation she and other women have faced since speaking out about sexual assault and holding assilants accountable.

She emphasized that the risk associated with coming forward is why others should stand with those who speak out and share their truth. Gillibrand encouraged women and everyone to use their voices to stand up for what they believe in. Referencing the backlash she received from other Democrats when she called for former Senator Al Franken's resignation in 2018, Gillibrand said that no one should put women who stand up for themselves and others at fault.

Asked about what students can do to motivate politicians to act on gun control issues, Gillbrand advised students to "keep marching" in reference to the student-run March for our Lives movement that pushed for gun reform in the aftermath of the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in 2018. Gillibrand commended Emma Gonzalez and other student leaders from the movement for advocating for gun control. She urged students to use their votes to push elected officials to stand up to gun lobbyists like the National Rifle Association (NRA) and support common sense gun laws.

Speaking about her own involvement with the issue, Gillibrand cited her supportive efforts for a federal anti-gun trafficking law, background checks, and a ban on military-grade assult rifles. Gillibrand additionally reflected on how she realized she had to be a leader in ending gun violence after she met with families who lost their loved ones to gun violence and listened to their stories. She concluded that she had to do everything possible to make sure major shootings never happen again.

Harry Mayer '22, who asked Senator Gillibrand a question about misinformation and misleading advertisements on Facebook and other online platforms, said, "Gillibrand was very informed on many topics, and she gave specific examples of legislation to address my question." In response to Mayer's question, Gillibrand's recommendations included the creation of a cabinet position or agency focused on data management and cybersecurity to provide expertise.

Speaking on Syracuse University students' protests in the wake of recent instances of hate speech against marginalized groups on campus, Gillibrand reaffirmed her stance that there is no place on college campuses for hate speech. She emphasized that this topic is not a freedom of speech issue and urged students to demand that college campuses be safe and require education on hate. She explained that it is important for students to understand the negative consequences that result when people do not stand up for what is right and encouraged students to push the administration to enforce repercussions against those who use hate speech.

After a member of the College Democrats spoke on the group's efforts to increase student voting in local elections, Gillibrand emphasized the responsibility of students to defend voting rights, get out to vote, and understand that their voice matters and can change the outcome of elections, especially local elections. She also said that if elected officials will not do the people's work, the people need to vote them out and replace them with those who are willing to drive change.

On bipartisan issues such as the Equality Act, which was passed by the United States House of Representatives on May 17, 2019 and would amend the Civil Rights Act to "prohibit discrimination on the basis of the sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition of an individual, as well as because of sex-based stereotypes," Gillibrand questioned whether other politicians are with the rest of America or if they are playing partisan politics in their opposition to the bill.

She urged the audience to fix democracy by getting money out of politics and said that she wants New York State to hold the first publicly funded election. Her re-election campaigns have been publicly funded.

Gillibrand concluded by noting that the status quo in politics fails so many groups of people, adding that robust and intersectional solutions constitute what is necessary to address issues including institutional racism, climate change, gun violence, and poverty. She predicts that people will dare to be bold and make progressive reforms in the future, led by today's students' demands for change.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NANCY L. FORD

Gillibrand discussed public service and civic engagement.

Because Hamilton Day raises $3,092,733 to support financial aid

by Caroline Boyd '23
STAFF WRITER

Festivities celebrating "Because Hamilton Day" took place across campus on Friday, Nov. 15. The day marked the approximate ten-year anniversary of Hamilton's decision to go need-blind in its admissions, and the day's fundraising activities were targeted towards both financial aid and an endowed scholarship in honor of the decadal milestone.

"It's all about financial aid," said President Wippman while sporting a blue "Because Hamilton" tee shirt at a selfie station set up in Commons. "If we raise one million dollars, [CEO of Goldman Sachs] David Soloman will match that sum."

Hamilton succeeded in raising the $1 million — the greatest sum the College has ever tried to raise in one day. By the end of the day, it had even surpassed its goal, raising a total of $3,092,733 from donors across the country.

Friday's events included a Commons "selfie station" set up during lunch time and carnival games, s'mores outside of the Sadove Student Center in the afternoon, and a "Because Hamilton Day Party" at The Little Pub at 7 PM.

The selfie station was a spectacle. The College's mascot, Alexander Hamilton, made an appearance, students and administrators sported boas, prop glasses, and free blue tee shirts, and Commons served festive Hamilton-themed cookies. The swag was all to "encourage people to participate and post to Instagram," according to Jaime Thiesen, who works in the Advancement Office for Alumni Events.

When people posted to Instagram using the hashtag #BecauseHamilton, photos appeared on a digital mosaic projected on a large TV in Commons through a social media tool called Luster. Because Hamilton events took place across the country in Clinton, Boston, Chicago, Denver, and San Francisco; no matter where people were, their pictures appeared in the collage to form a pixelated view of the chapel from behind the Hamilton statue. The station also printed photos posted to Instagram.

"I do love that they print out the photos because I love a good photo to hang on my wall," said Elisa Matson '23.

The carnival station and s'mores event drew crowds, and once again mascot Alexander Hamilton. Students roasted marshmallows by a firepit and lined up to play High Striker, a game where participants ring a bell with a hammer.

Sam Welch '86, executive director of the Career Center, donated on behalf of every student who participated in High Striker. Every time a student rang the bell, Welch donated $15. He also matched the sum of every dollar caught in the cash box.

"I love this demonstration of school spirit and community," said Kaitlyn Bieber '23 at the carnival event. "Free food is always a plus."

Other Because Hamilton Day celebrations included Senior Pub night on Thursday, where senior students who donated a minimum of $5 to the school earned a free Class of 2020 mug and a free drink of choice, and a community event in a Pub with live music and free food on Friday.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NANCY L. FORD

Students engage in Soper Commons Dining Hall's Because Hamilton activities with President Wippman.

Bronx Conexión Latinx Jazz Big Band hosts panel on power of music

by Danie Edwards '21
Staff Writer

On Friday, Nov. 15 at 1:30 PM, an event titled "The Nuyorican Experience: A Panel on Diversity and Inclusion with the Bronx Conexión Latinx Jazz Big Band" was held in the Red Pit. The three members of the Bronx Conexión Latinx Jazz Big Band present — Cascadu, Chembo Corniel, and Victor Rendón — discussed their professional and personal experiences with music. In the conversation, the musicians focused on how music can connect people in various ways.

Victor Rendón, percussionist and band leader, has played with many notable Latin-jazz musicians, published the book *The Art of Playing with Timbales*, and contributed to several magazines.

Percussionist Chembo Corniel has established a record label, produced music for multiple albums, been nominated for a Grammy, and studied at Havana's prestigious Escuela Nacional de Arte.

Cascadu is versatile as both a vocalist and percussionist in jazz, Latin, and Afro-Carribean, among other genres, and has produced a CD.

During the panel, the moderator took the time to ask the musicians several questions regarding their musical influences and journey and the role they play within different communities. Each of the musicians is familiar with many different styles of music: rock, jazz, Carribean, Indian, you name it. So when asked about their influences growing up and how they entered the music world, it was not surprising that each musician had a lot to say about their path to living a life of music.

Growing up with Puerto Rican parents, Corniel said he was exposed to his own culture's sound at a young age. Outside of the home, however, on the streets of the Bronx, he heard the sounds of rock, jazz, and Motown, where eventually he said he found his love for music. Corniel added that musicians of marginalized groups tend to show more respect for different communities and genres because he and his colleagues take the time to learn the actual style of the music. Within these diverse sounds, Corniel says he found a way to take different approaches to an instrument based on genre and used the influences of his childhood experiences to learn the variety of ways one could play a singular instrument.

Rendón said he had a similar experience growing up, though his childhood was in Texas. He discovered some music through his family, but said he gained most of his knowledge at a young age thanks to his high school band teacher, who saw his talent and helped him grow as a musician. As Rendón progressed through high school, his teacher exposed him to jazz and Latino music.

The first Latino band he heard was Santana, which Rendón described as finding something that he "could identify with" because he connected with the language and culture of the song. Today, Rendón said he loves to create experiences similar to his by giving back to the music community and exposing others to the powers of different sounds.

Cascadu grew up in Trinidad surrounded by a "very musical society." From a young age, Cascadu said he participated in his culture's music by becoming a serious dancer. As a child, he said his life revolved around Trinidadian culture, which meant he loved music, dance, and eventually the drum. After a long journey of discovering the wonders of the drum, Cascadu eventually began to study music under a teacher in Buffalo who he says taught him that music was about communication. From listening to different genres, Cascadu also discovered that knowing more languages is a great asset to a musician. Now, he feels a personal responsibility to pass those lessons on to others.

Although the three musicians came from diverse cultural backgrounds and developed their connection with music in different ways, they emphasized the commonalities that have united them and given them the ability to create something together.

Cascadu, Corniel, and Rendón made it clear in their discussion that music can connect people. Whether one grows up listening to Puerto Rican music or Jimi Hendrix, they said, there is almost always something people can relate to in music.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BRONX CONEXÓN LATINX JAZZ BIG-BAND

Part of the cover art from the album *True Flight* by the Bronx Connexión Latinx Jazz Big Band.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency, *The Spectator* publishes a selection of the previous week's incidents each Thursday. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* use discretion regarding what is published.

Wednesday, November 13

8:20 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Milbank Residence Hall
4:22 P.M. Medical Emergency – Blood Fitness Center
7:57 P.M. TipNow – McIntosh Residence Hall

Thursday, November 14

10:08 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Milbank Residence Hall
4:17 P.M. Medical Emergency – Taylor Science Center
4:37 P.M. Odor of Marijuana – Dunham Residence Hall
11:03 P.M. Noise Complaint – South Campus

Friday, November 15

10:55 A.M. Medical Emergency – McEwen Dining Hall
12:29 P.M. Complaint – McIntosh Residence Hall
1:50 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Siuda House
2:16 P.M. Motorist Assist – Tolles Pavilion

Saturday, November 16

12:56 A.M. Medical Emergency – Skenandoa Residence Hall
1:42 A.M. Complaint – Bundy East Residence Hall
2:42 A.M. Noise Complaint – Babbitt Residence Hall
11:18 A.M. Complaint – Kirner-Johnson Building
10:53 P.M. Medical Emergency – Root Residence Hall
11:18 P.M. Medical Emergency – Milbank Residence Hall

Sunday, November 17

1:40 A.M. Medical Emergency – Milbank Residence Hall
2:17 A.M. Medical Emergency – Milbank Residence Hall
2:28 P.M. Concern for Welfare – Bundy East Residence Hall

Monday, November 18

6:46 A.M. Complaint – Sadove Student Center
10:48 A.M. Medical Emergency – Minor Residence Hall
12:02 P.M. Medical Emergency – Minor Residence Hall
4:57 P.M. Medical Emergency – North Campus
7:01 P.M. Area Check – Christian A. Johnson Hall
7:59 P.M. Tow Vehicle – Ferguson House Faculty Parking Lots

The value of the arts

As Thanksgiving approaches, it is important to take a moment to recognize the communities on the Hill that you are thankful for. For me, the Hamilton College Choir and my a cappella group, Special K, have been two support systems on campus for which I am thankful.

Reflecting on my experiences in these two music groups, as well as my experience as one of *The Spectator*'s Arts & Entertainment Section Editors for three semesters, a position which exposed me to dozens of other arts communities on campus, I would like to discuss the value of the arts at Hamilton, and the power of arts communities on and off the Hill.

Adjusting to college life as a first-year student can be challenging and isolating. In my first semester at Hamilton, choir and a cappella reminded me of home, and quickly became like families for me, making me feel more at ease in this tough transition period. This speaks to the power of music to bring people together. The same can be said for non-musical arts communities.

I would encourage Hamilton students to get involved with theatre, visual arts, choir, orchestra, a cappella, dance, improv comedy, and more. Any group that centers around creating something with others can provide an immense amount of social and emotional support. The support in arts communities is unparalleled because the rate at which close bonds form increases when you have to let your guard down and come out of your shell to be creative with a new group of people.

My participation in arts groups throughout my life has made me the person I am today. I was an extremely shy child, and these groups, in addition to my arts education, gave me skills to express myself and boost my confidence. Everyone should be able to explore what the arts can do for their personal growth. I believe that anyone, not just people who consider themselves artists or performers, can find an arts community at Hamilton that they can thrive in.

Hamilton has shown its commitment to the arts in recent years with the 2014 opening of the multi-million dollar project, the Kennedy Center for Theater and the Studio Arts. It is crucial that this administrative and donor support for the arts continues, so that all students can participate in the arts, and arts groups can continue to have the resources they need to thrive. For the arts to continue to flourish at Hamilton, students also need to show up for each other. Attend your friends' performances, presentations, and exhibits. Audiences are critical. Without them, arts groups would cease to exist.

When discussing the arts, it is imperative to mention the fact that not every school is as fortunate as we are at Hamilton to have strong funding for the arts. Additionally, more and more K-12 students around the country are not receiving any arts education. The arts are not seen as a priority, and are often the first to go in budget cuts. Our support for the arts must go beyond the Hill. In order for everyone to experience the benefits of the arts, we need to demand our politicians to fully fund arts education, and assist non-profits that work towards this goal.
I am thankful that I have had opportunities in the arts throughout my life on and off the Hill. I call upon the Hamilton College community to continue to grow support for the arts at Hamilton and beyond.

Sincerely,
Josie Blatt '21
Managing Editor

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The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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DREW ANDERSON '21
OPINION COLUMNIST

Why Obama is Wrong About the Dems Moving Left

It seems as though Barack Obama has a problem with the left. The problem is that he does not like the left and neither does the Democratic establishment.

Last week Obama addressed a group of wealthy donors who call themselves The Democracy Alliance. Headlining an event for a secretive group that controls hundreds of millions in campaign contributions, Obama took the chance to warn wealthy liberals that Democratic candidates should "pay some attention to where voters actually are and how they can actually think about their lives," according to *Politico*.

"The average American doesn't think we have to completely tear down the system and remake it," he warned. "They just don't want to see crazy stuff." Yeah, how crazy it would be for a cut-throat country like the United States to provide health insurance to all Americans, or affordable college, or distribute income equitably. Absurd!

Obama vehemently objects to Democratic candidates calling for big systemic change, and in doing so, he demonstrates everything that is wrong with the Democratic party.

In 2016 it did not matter that, while campaigning in support of Hillary Clinton, President Obama argued, "I don't think that there is ever been someone so qualified to hold this office." When a rude, air-headed celebrity with no political experience ran on a platform of being anti-elite, anti-social justice, anti-establishment, and beat the epitome of an establishment politician in Clinton, Democrats did not learn their lesson.

Instead, they painted their loss as an electoral college fluke. They blamed it on Russian interference, the Wikileaks dump of thousands of John Podesta emails, and FBI Director James Comey's reopening of the investigation into Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server for official State Department correspondence.

Blame was deflected off Hillary Clinton. Her unexciting platform and her Washington-establishment status would come up in conversation, as well as her limited travel to some states that spurned her. But her loss is usually attributed to factors outside of her own control.

Of course, Clinton did indeed win the popular vote. And ask any government professor and they will probably tell you 2016 was a fluke. But I would argue it should never have been so close in the first place.

If Clinton and her relatively-moderate platform are supposed to be regarded as the be-all-end-all in Obama's view — then and now — then why did not she wipe the floor with Donald J. Trump?

Ironically, Obama is telling the Democrats to take their cues from conservatives. In his comments to The Democracy Alliance, he argued that "persuadable independents" and "moderate Republicans" are not "driven by the same views that are reflected on certain, you know, left-leaning Twitter feeds."

In a time when, according to a Kaiser Family Foundation report, over 70 percent of Democrats favor Medicare-for-all maybe Obama would prefer that Democrats pay attention to the 70 percent of Republicans that oppose Medicare-for-all?

I could not disagree more with Obama's foray into the 2020 presidential race. He seems to forget that even though Hillary Clinton won the 2016 Democratic Presidential Primary with 16.9 million votes, Bernie Sanders came in second with 13.2 million Democratic primary votes.

Sure, that is a 12-point spread. But that plurality of Bernie supporters should not be shunned as Democrats regroup for 2020 and beyond. That progressive Bernie base is full of young people who form the future of the party, young people who are all-in for systemic change and political solution.

Bernie Sanders does not get the credit he deserves for retaining a young, diverse base. According to polling by *YouGov* and *The Economist*, Bernie fought Clinton to a near-draw for non-white voters under the age of 44 in the 2016 Primary, closing a 33-point deficit in October 2015 to around 5-points by June 2016. Meanwhile, Bernie dominated Hillary amongst white voters age 18-44, fielding a 31-point lead by the end of the race.

Ignoring those numbers, Obama also does not want to focus on the distant moderate candidates of the 2020 Democratic Presidential primary. Even though Obama's Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr. continues to lead national polls, Senators Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders are always a close second and third. And Biden's early lead is wavering.

Together, Warren and Sanders have raised nearly three times as much in individual contributions as Biden, according to *The New York Times*. Taken together, their national polling averages carry an 11-point spread over Biden. Their share of the Democratic electorate appears to have the upper hand. And frankly, Obama does not like that.

Of course I am not against politicians listening to their constituents; that is supposed to be their job! But I am against President Obama's interpretation of what the average American thinks. The Democratic Party might not be talking and voting how he would like, but change is about and I would prefer that Barack Obama did not put himself in the way of that change.

My advice to the 44th President: stick to the speaking circuit and stay out of the way of Democratic progress.

Tom Brady: the most overrated football player, ever

by Will Ling '22
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

Tom Brady is an aggressively mediocre quarterback who is the mere product of a system and would not be successful anywhere besides the Bill Belichick-coached Patriot teams he has been on. It is crazy to me that people label him the greatest football player of all time merely as a result of his image. No one really bats an eye at this assessment.

I do not equate accomplishment with being considered the "Greatest of All Time." The "GOAT" should be the most skilled athlete to ever play — especially in a sport like football, which is the ultimate team game. Only using Super Bowl wins as an indicator of grandeur is ridiculous.

When you look at Tom Brady, he is a late-round draft pick with an average arm and below-average athleticism. Nothing he does jumps out and screams "GOAT." He has played for a long time on a number of skilled teams with the greatest coach to ever live, so he holds a lot of accolades. No one can take that away from him, but, again, these accolades do not equate to him being the most talented quarterback ever.

That often leads people to fall back on the "rings" argument. Other quarterbacks — like Aaron Rodgers and Drew Brees— are undoubtedly more talented players, but have played on worse football teams than Brady was fortunate enough to be on.

Not to mention, Brady has only played for one coach, one owner, and alongside historically great players (like Rob Gronkowski and Randy Moss) and defenses (he has had a defense ranked outside the top ten only three times in 17 seasons).

I find it a far more impressive feat that Peyton Manning was able to win two Super Bowls with two different teams and succeed with a myriad of different coaches. Stability garners success and Brady has had that his whole career.

For the first few years of Brady's career, he was a glorified "Game Manager" — not nearly someone anyone would have thought of as the "GOAT." He threw for 145-total yards in his first Super Bowl and won. He has consistently had poor-to-average playoff performances and has been dragged to victories by his team. The stats (which would be too long, and I presume boring, to list here) prove this. He has had some good games sprinkled in, but he is not this "untouchable" and "clutch" quarterback people paint him out to be.

In 2008, Tom Brady tore his ACL and missed the entire season. His backup was Matt Cassel, a quarterback who had not completed a pass since high school because he was a backup his entire college career. Cassel led the Patriots to an 11-5 record and was top 10 in touchdown passes and passer rating. It must be noted that the Patriots were 16-0 the year prior, but they lost a few key players. I am not trying to argue that Cassel is equal to Brady, but instead, show that the system the Patriots have makes it easy for the quarterback to succeed. Cassel did not have any notable seasons after he left the Patriots.

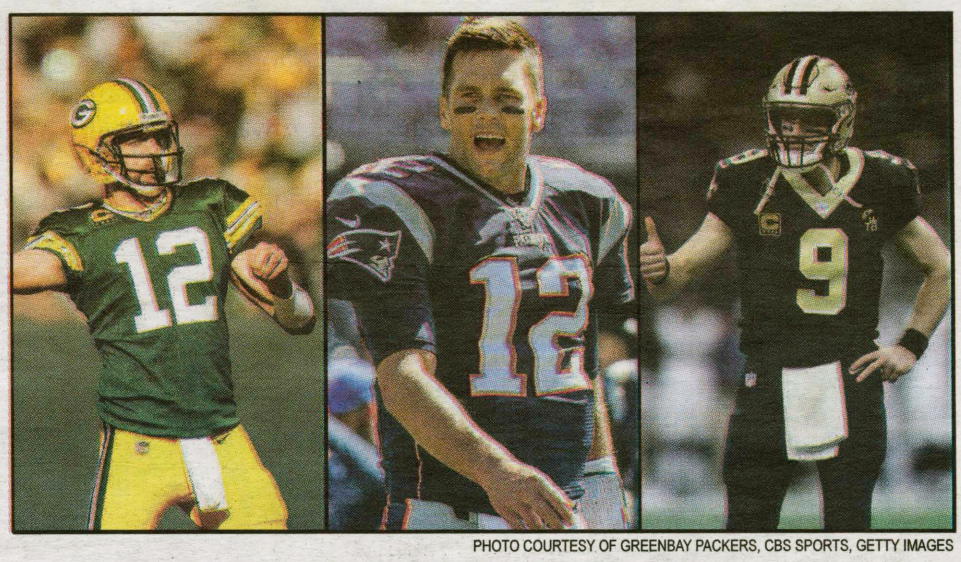


PHOTO COURTESY OF GREENBAY PACKERS, CBS SPORTS, GETTY IMAGES

Brady (middle) does not measure up in the category of "Greatest of All Time" compared to quarterbacks like Aaron Rodgers (left) and Drew Brees (right). Greatness is about more than rings, writes Ling '22.

I would add that it is hard for me to envision Brady succeeding anywhere else but New England. Obviously, this cannot be quantified, but I would say this: how many great 6th round quarterbacks have there been in modern NFL history? No one too notable.

Brady was drafted in that position because he was simply a sixth-round talent, and it is hard for me to believe that this decent college quarterback just transformed into this great talent. That just doesn't happen.

Finally, greatness should leave no room for doubt. Brady's career has been riddled with what-if plays. The Tuck rule, the Seahawks not running the ball, and just last year, Dee Ford of the Chiefs lined up four inches offsides when Brady threw a game-losing pick (there was a flag, the interception did not count, and the Patriots went on to win).

Tom Brady is not a bad player by any means, but should not be lumped into the "GOAT" conversation.

Does Donald Trump secretly want to be impeached?

by Gabriela De Mendonca Gomes '23
Staff Writer

It seems like President Trump's actions have been leading him towards impeachment. While any president would normally avoid that outcome at all costs, for Trump, impeachment could present itself as a strategic move for reelection.

There are two stages of removal from office. Impeachment is the first — a legal statement of charges by the House of Representatives, essentially equivalent to an indictment in criminal law. In order for Trump to be removed from office, he must be convicted by a two-thirds majority in the Senate via trial. Trump knows that Democrats, with a GOP majority in the Senate, would never even get close to a two-thirds majority, so he is rightfully not scared of what might follow his potential indictment.

Impeachment by the House of Representatives without a removal by the Senate would transform Trump into a martyr for the GOP. It would freely enable him to tweet about the persecution and prosecution he suffered at the hands of the liberal "Deep State" that he claims controls the House.

Using his indictment as a reinforcement of the "Witch Hunt" rhetoric he has been pushing since assuming office, Trump would hope to rally his supporters for the 2020 election against any Democratic nominee.

Anyone who has paid attention to Trump's actions over the last couple of years can guess how the President would frame his eventual trial acquittal. Namely, like he did after the Mueller Report was published, he would claim that it clears him of all accusations. To directly quote the President's tweet on July 27 about his (incorrect) interpretation of the Special Counsel's conclusions: "No Collusion, No Obstruction, Complete and Total EXONERATION. KEEP AMERICA GREAT!"

It is likely that he would continue to perpetuate narratives of an undying "phony impeachment Witch Hunt," as he referenced it in a tweet on Nov. 19. It is alarming and disheartening that these misleading proclamations have time and time again strengthened Trump's voters' refrain: if Democrats and liberals are attacking Trump, he must be doing something right.

Moreover, what Trump would find in the Senate is a trial that he would almost certainly win by a significant, rally-worthy margin. Removing him from office would take a supermajority, meaning that every single one of the 45 Democrats, 2 independents, and a whopping 20 Republicans would have to vote to convict, an outcome that does not seem at all probable in today's current political conditions.

Furthermore, the fundamental legal principle that one is innocent until proven guilty would no longer be applicable. Should they refuse to convict, GOP Senators, who are supposed to act as part of the impartial jury, would subjugate legal principle to their blind devotion to and political dependence on the President.

However, there are alternate theories to the nature of the president's absurd behavior. First, the argument presented in this article could be overestimating Trump's forethought; his response to the impeachment hearing could be more reactionary than anything else. It is also possible that the President's legal counsel has told him to assume that he is going to get impeached, and he could be attempting to lay the groundwork for his plans to use the proceedings to his advantage. If, beyond these theories, there are other reasons for his tweets about impeachment, his brazen witness intimidation, and his wild accusations about Democrats, whistleblowers, and fake evidence, they are, at this point, incomprehensible.

Whether Trump actually wants to use impeachment as a twisted reelection strategy, plans to lean into the proceedings because he can rely on the Senate to exonerate him, or is just responding based on pure emotion, his motivations are nonetheless unorthodox and inscrutable.

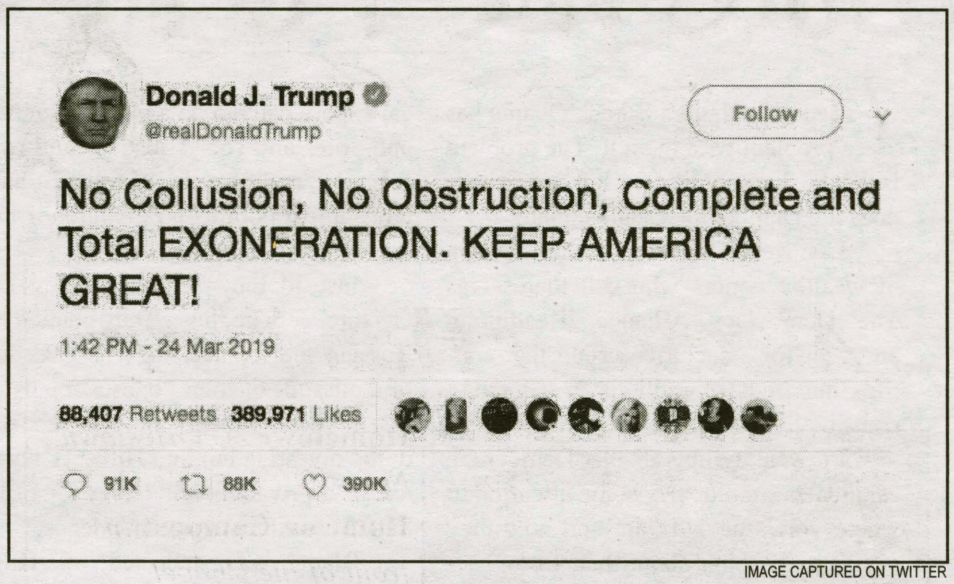


IMAGE CAPTURED ON TWITTER

Trump has run his campaign — and largely, his presidency — on narratives of misleading proclamations, all the while exhibiting patterns of absurd behavior, writes De Mendonca Gomes '23.

Thumbs Up | Thumbs Down | Who Cares?

The Midwest

The so-called flyover states host some of the greatest places and things in the United States. Mt. Rushmore. Badlands National Park. Cleveland, Ohio. Kevin Durant between 2008 and 2016. The world's largest Ball of Twine. The Midwest is not only a key battleground region every four years, it is a massive, diverse, and beautiful area. It also is not any more boring than any other place, despite what the liberal media tells you.

The East Coast

I have lived on the East Coast my entire life and everybody here is cold, miserable, and morally bankrupt. Anyone who says they "love the seasons" is a heinous liar who is just trying to warm the frozen cockles of their heart and make up for the fact that they signed onto a mortgage in an area that has outlandishly high property taxes. Nobody likes living on the East Coast; everything is cramped, dirty, and small. I love it.

The West Coast

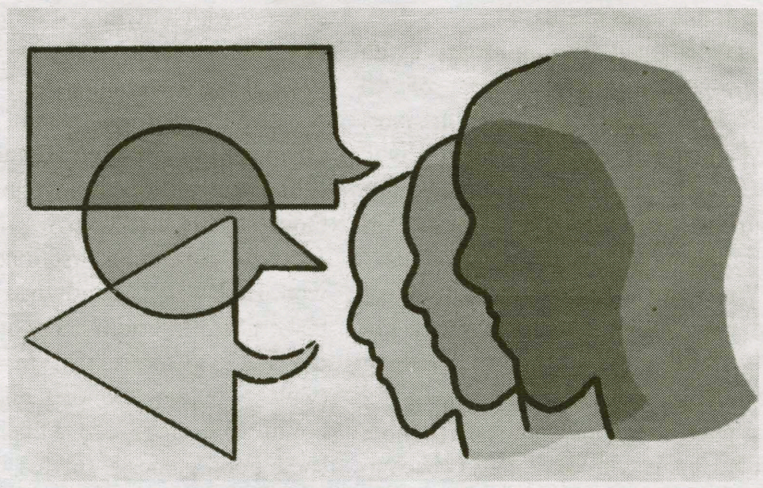
Get over yourselves.

by Peter Case '21

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

Strongly opinionated? Disagree with someone? Think a certain issue isn't getting enough attention?

Write about it!



Email spec@hamilton.edu for more information!

The Spectator

Bachelor & Bachelorette

Alexander Hamilton

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Hometown: *Charlestown, Nevis.*
Home on Campus: *In front of the Chapel.*
Major: *Government and Economics.*
Turn on? *Biggggggggg banks.*
Turn off? *Aaron Burr.*
If you were a dorm, which would you be and why? *Eells, because the last time my backside got any attention was C&C day.*
What TV genre best describes you? *Quite a few History Channel documentaries describe me pretty well.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *Hey, remember me? Your sister in law?*
What's your type? *Federalists.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Breeches, stockings, and buckle shoes.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *In front of the Chapel. I'm always alone so I wouldn't really have to go anywhere, even if I could.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *The living.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Individually urinating on everyone who has done the same to me.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *The Constitution (shameless plug).*
What would you give a thumbs down? *The Articles of Confederation.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *The rugby player who put a dildo on my head. That was kinda cute uwu.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Douglas Ambrose.*
What would your perfect date be? *Slowly rubbing my nose in the quiet hours of the night.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Pissing. On. Me.*
Lights on or lights off? *Lights off. I'm so sick of these goddamn lights shining on me all the time. Please, someone come turn them off and stroke my bronze nose in the darkness.*
Favorite campus study spot? *In front of the Chapel.*
What was your first thought this morning? *Why does the Chapel bell have to ring every hour?*
What's the meaning of life? *Winning duels.*
Which American historical figure are you attracted to and why? *Not to be a narcissist, but...*

Megan Buiocchi '20

PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGAN BUIOCCHI '20

Hometown: *Los Altos, C.A.*
Home on Campus: *Babbitt.*
Major: *History.*
Turn on? *Obscure trivia about US Presidents.*
Turn off? *Men who think wraps are an acceptable use of tortillas.*
If you were a dorm, which would you be and why? *South, because I got too much spunk to fit in a forced quad!*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *Francesco Rinaldi pasta sauce: "Made by Italians. Enjoyed by Everyone."*
What TV genre best describes you? *A* How You Met Your Mother*-esque romcom that gets cancelled before the season one finale.*
What's your type? *I love me a sexy librarian.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Bundy because I would rather just eat in a corner by myself.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *Hot tip: if you start belting Sondheim wherever you go, you don't have to actually go anywhere to be alone.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Keytones. Something about those sick harmonies makes my lil heart swoon.*
What's your patronus and why? *A poodle because of my hair and my instinctual fear of being touched.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Steal the entire container of Pumpkin Spice Black Tea from McEwen.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *The surge of brilliance I feel every time I walk into Trivia Night.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *The crushing self-doubt I feel every time I walk out of Trivia Night.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Any Opus barista that compliments my earring choices.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Professor Trivedi.*
What would your perfect date be? *We go to Barnes and Noble and commiserate about the death of bookselling practices in America, followed by some light-hearted bowling.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *A colonial bear I got in Philadelphia that I named "Bearjamin Frankfur."*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Getting a side salad at Diner.*
Lights on or lights off? *A dark room lit by an extravagant and probably overpriced candelabra.*

QuestBridge scholars and Hamilton community celebrate National Quest Day

by Matthew Surprenant '22
Contributing Writer

Hamilton College's QuestBridge scholars and members of the Hamilton community gathered to celebrate National Quest Day on Nov. 15. According to the QuestBridge organization, this day allows the community to "reflect on [one's own] identity and celebrate all things QuestBridge." Across the country, QuestBridge scholars celebrated the opportunities that the program has provided. Hamilton QuestBridge scholars showed off their "QuestBridge spirit" as they hosted a "Throwback party," which honored the past 25 years of the program.

Sadove basement buzzed with a variety of music and fun video games to entertain attending students, and students commemorated the anniversary party with a polaroid from the photo booth.

Mason Schroeder '23, a part of the Questbridge E-Board, shed some light on the general feel of the event.

"People seemed to be having fun," Schroeder said. "It was a pretty upbeat environment. Lots of pictures were taken. I think we ran out of film in the end."

Overall, the event was described as a "very chill and fun time."

For those unfamiliar with Questbridge as a whole, the program can be compared to a scholarship program such as the National Honor Society or the Ron Brown Scholars organization. QuestBridge is a non-profit program that links students with educational and scholarship opportunities at some U.S. colleges and universities. Unlike other scholarship programs that only offer tuition aid, QuestBridge matches the "nation's most exceptional, low-income youth with top colleges all over the U.S." In addition to its national college match service, QuestBridge also offers a college prep scholars program. This program provides awards and opportunities that give outstanding low-income high school juniors an early advantage in college admissions.

To apply, students submit their applications, then rank up to 12 college partners they are seeking to gain admittance to. Finalists are selected and notified by Oct. 16th. On Dec. 2nd, the finalists find out to which schools they have been matched. If matched, the finalists are admitted early with a full 4-year scholarship to the institution of their choice. If they do not end up getting matched during early decision, students can apply through the QuestBridge regular decision program and still be eligible for admission and financial aid. After the students are matched and accepted into college, Questbridge continues to support participants.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF HAMILTON QUESTBRIDGE CHAPTER

(Above) Students celebrate National Quest Day outside of the Chapel. (Below) Students pose for a photo at the "throwback" polaroid station in the Sadove basement.

From Where I Sit: A tale of my childhood

Hamilton's International Perspectives Column

by Ian Nduhiu '22
Contributing Writer

Mornings were me waking up to the not so distant sound
Of ironsmiths and blacksmiths
Engaged in their craft
Mornings were clanging metal being my morning alarm
My wake up call
Mornings were me learning how to make my bed
How to tie up the mosquito net and not leave it hanging
Mornings were me waking up earlier than everyone else
Well, apart from my grandmother, she was always the earliest of us all
There was no way I could beat her
Mornings were me falling in love with tea
"Too much tea is not good for a small child," they'd say
"Yeah just keep on talking," I said to myself, knowing I'd have my way,
Mornings were me glued to the television screen,
Waiting to watch Justice League, Powerpuff girls, all those cartoons
Mornings were me hoping it doesn't rain for the day,
But mornings were also me hoping it doesn't stop raining
As nothing was more soothing than the sound of rain falling outside
While I slept
Mornings were me waiting eagerly for time to pass
For it to be afternoon.

Afternoons were me playing football in our compound
Getting yelled at by our neighbors for causing a ruckus
Afternoons were me pestering my father to take me with him
A part of me even hoped he would take me to school with him
Just to see how he teaches
Afternoons were me hoping a guest would come by
Just to get sent to the shop to buy stuff
Afternoons were me basically hoping to get out of the house
Any reason for me was enough
Afternoons were me being sad when it looked like it would rain
Cold, grey and gloomy all over
I could not play in the mud if it rained
At least that was what I was worried about,
Not getting wet, or catching a cold, or falling sick…
That was for the family to worry about... not me
All I wanted was to play
Afternoons were me watching replays of reality tv shows
Or sitting through some boring newscasts
Waiting for my evening cartoon shows to air
Afternoons were me hoping the school bus would be a few minutes early
So that I could still get to watch Ed, Edd, and Eddy on Cartoon Network

Evenings were me doing my homework
Evenings were me learning how to cook
Evenings were also me not being allowed in the kitchen
For my tendency to drop plates and cups and all kitchenware
Evenings were me running to hug my dad when he arrived from work
Evenings were me getting scolded for playing too much,
Or dropping rank in class, or just some other reason there
Evenings were me watching telenovelas with my family while eating dinner
Even though all their plots followed a similar trope, we still enjoyed them
Evenings were me hoping the late-night movie would be awesome
And fanboying over comical Jackie Chan action scenes

Nights were me playing video games with my dad
Well, mostly me watching him play…
Nights were me falling asleep on the couch
And finding myself in my bed the next day
Nights were me falling asleep in my father's arms when I was sick
Nights were me having to take meds that I hated before I slept,
Nights were me having dreams with monsters that I could not fight
Nights were me sleeping next to my grandmother feeling just right.

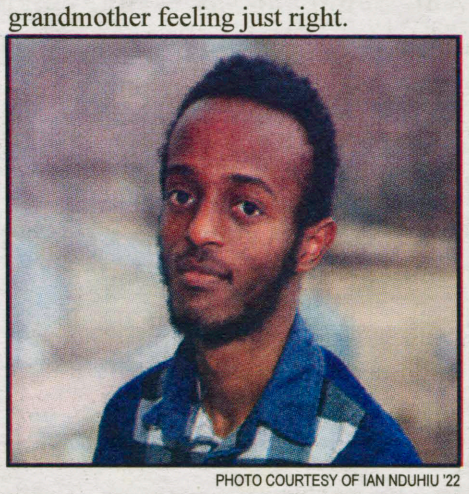


PHOTO COURTESY OF IAN NDUHIU '22

'From Where I Sit' is a column dedicated to the voices of international students, immigrant generation students, and students from families where English is not spoken at home.

Recognizing Hamilton's EMTs

by Cliff Musial '21
Features Editor

Hamilton joined other colleges and universities across the country last week, Monday Nov. 11 to Sunday Nov. 17, in recognizing National Collegiate EMS Week. According to the National Collegiate Emergency Medical Services Foundation, "the second full week in November… is a week-long recognition and celebration of campus-based EMS and provides an annual opportunity for campus-based EMS organizations to highlight their activities and educate their communities."

On the Hill, the Hamilton College Emergency Medical Services, or HCEMS, provide treatment from student volunteer Emergency Medical Technicians, or EMTs. All student volunteers are New York State certified EMTs. Often working shifts longer than twelve hours, EMTs carry their radios and medical bags with them for the duration of their shift, ready to respond to an emergency call. EMTs provide prehospital medical care to students, faculty, staff, and visitors on campus, and serve as the first responders to any emergency on the Hill. As students living on campus, EMTs can respond to campus emergencies much faster than off-campus medical services.

For the students who volunteer as EMTs, the job can be both rewarding as well as difficult. Even for students who are not necessarily interested in health science as a career path, like Sam Gause '21, serving as an EMT provides valuable life experience. "I'm not pre-med, so it really wasn't something I knew I wanted to do until I had talked to a few EMTs, Kat Spano '18 and Emma Weller '19, about it. After talking to them, there were two things that stood out to me: an opportunity to be in a position to help someone who is having an emergency, and the camaraderie that all the EMTs shared. I've learned the importance of clear communication, empathy, and to a certain degree how to shove pressure out of my head and make a cool-headed decision," remarked Gause.

Joey West '22, a Chinese and Math double major, also spoke to the importance of his time as an EMT. "Even though I'm not pre-med, I feel like I've gained lots of valuable experience that will be useful later on."

The process of becoming an EMT has its share of difficulties as well. Because all EMTs are New York State certified, they must go through a rigorous training course and pass the state EMT exam. For Gause, "getting certified definitely wasn't easy because I'd take classes from 6 P.M. to 10 P.M. after work twice a week for the whole summer. Once I was certified, I was definitely nervous to start but every EMT in the agency was always willing to answer any questions I had. That helped a lot, because they treated the sophomore rookies the same as senior veterans."

While classes are in session, HCEMS EMTs are available 24 hours a day. According to HCEMS and Hamilton College, "in case of emergency, call 315-859-4000 and EMTs will be dispatched to the scene. The EMT report becomes part of the student medical record, accessible only to the professional staff of the Health Center."

5 ways to survive Thanksgiving

by Jordan D'Addio '20
Contributing Writer

1. Plan your talking points ahead of time.

There are always a few family members that are more difficult to talk to, so it is a great idea to think of some conversation topics ahead of time. The best topics avoid politics, religion and your personal life (if those are things you need to avoid with your family). Try speaking about the weather, the delicious food in front of you, or reminiscing over past family events.

2. Make sure you get a good seat at the table.

If you are sitting around a large, crowded table for Thanksgiving, your location can be a crucial part of the holiday experience. The center of the table may ensure lively conversation, though you also may be stuck passing plates every few minutes. An end seat may help you avoid certain family members, but you also may feel isolated.

3. Plan activities.

Another way of avoiding unwanted conversations, everyone sitting awkwardly around the TV or hovering over the cook, is planning fun family activities. A great suggestion is some kind of craft or a game that suits a large group. Charades is always a crowd-pleaser, as is Jenga, or a card game like Uno.

4. Dress Appropriately.

There is certainly a science to both looking nice for the holiday, while also wearing a comfortable outfit that accommodates the large quantity of food you are sure to inhale. Loose clothing, in a color that will not stain easily, is typically the safest option. Be sure to avoid anything the older generations may critique, such as distressed denim or certain graphic tees.

5. Ask the questions you have always wanted to ask.

Thanksgiving is all about family, so it's a great time to ask your grandmother, uncle, cousin or anyone else about themselves. Not only will they appreciate your curiosity, but you will likely learn something you may have never expected from a family member.

"So how are those student loans going?"	"Dammit Uncle ____, stop trying to steal the silverware!"	Cousin attempts to rip Juul mid-chew	"Anyone wanna go haul the old pigskin?"	"Who left their dentures in the stuffing?"
Forgetting to take the turkey out of the microwave	Family atheists take a knee during grace	"Now, I'm not racist, *but*…"	"Hamilton College…now where's that?"	"Just to play Devil's advocate here…"
The wishbone invariably favors your opponent	"Stop switching the damn game to HGTV!"		"Really plumped up at college, huh?"	Gravy boat commandeered
"When I was your age, I was married with 4 kids!"	"Oh, like the musical?"	Aunt ____ pulls out the green bean casserole	"So what's the deal with all these protests?"	"Stop switching the damn game to Pets TV!"
"Just like the Pilgrims did it!"	"Well, actually, if you *read* the Constitution…"	Stifled political debate provokes angry glances this way, that	"Dammit Uncle ____, you can't smoke in the house!"	Realizing you have nothing, *nothing* to be thankful for

PHOTO COURTESY OF EVAN ROBINSON '23

Check out this bingo game by Evan Robinson '23 if you are interested in spicing up Thanksgiving dinner.

The Hamilton Horoscope

Terrified of your crazy family's Thanksgiving dinner? Is the thought of all the work you will have after break stressing you out? Well, look no further than the astrological portents, and your questions will be answered. Find your birthday below to identify your sign.

January 20-February 18: **Aquarius**
February 19-March 20: **Pisces**
March 21-April 19: **Aries**
April 20-May 20: **Taurus**
May 21-June 20: **Gemini**
June 21-July 22: **Cancer**
July 23-August 22: **Leo**
August 23-September 22: **Virgo**
September 23-October 22: **Libra**
October 23-November 21: **Scorpio**
November 22-December 21: **Sagittarius**
December 22-January 19: **Capricorn**

Aquarius

Mercury in retrograde obstructs communication. Now that it is out of retrograde, have some of the conversations that have been weighing you down. Try and get them out before break so that the hard conversations do not sit in your stomach for a week.

Pisces

Over the next few days your sense of possibility is changing. Maybe it is the fact that you are about to go home or maybe just maybe it is the fact that Mercury is out of retrograde. Take this newfound optimism and run full steam ahead. Eat some pie.

Aries

Pent up aggressive energy is undermining your self-determination. It is important to remember to practice healthy dialogues with the voices in your head. Take time this break to work on self care, and by that I do not mean try a new face mask.

Taurus

Your stubbornness is what makes you you, Taurus. However, you must realize that there is a time and a place to really stand your ground. The dinner table on Thanksgiving night is not the time nor the place to fight with uncle Jim.

Gemini

You get bored easily and the lack of excitement in your hometown is making you dread this break. There is no need to fret, it seems you have forgotten that you make your own fun in the middle of New York everyday! Anything can be fun if you try.

Cancer

Neptune is in your realm this week and it is known as "the great dissolver." This means Neptune want to break down the boundaries between you and the rest of the world. Entertain this by going home and be present with your friends and family.

Leo

You are naturally confident, and right now you are able to access your big dreams. While this is inspiring and wonderful, make sure that you are well organized for your dream job. Get your ducks in a row Leo, or no one will follow.

Virgo

You strongly identify with your everyday responsibilities, so break is throwing you off your game. While your schedule will look different at home, you can still figure out how to create a system that works for you. Going home doesn't mean you can't have structure.

Libra

Sadly the motivation to do any of your school work has drifted away like the fall leaves. The last three weeks have been excessively draining, so make sure to take the time to bring that passion for learning back before finals. Read a book for pleasure.

Scorpio

It can be intimidating to go home and reconnect with old highschool friends. You have developed both intellectually and emotionally since highschool. Do not let old habits back in just because you return to the place they thrived.

Sagitarius

Healthy self-esteem does not make you full of yourself. Thanksgiving should be the time when you brag about all of the amazing things you are doing at school. Your family and friends care about how you are doing and want to hear about your accomplishments.

Capricorn

You don't waste time on being agreeable, but in this moment you are unsure of what you stand for. Use the time away from school to look in the mirror and discover what you are passionate about. Everyone has something they care for, you just have to keep searching.

Fall mainstage review: *TRAGEDY: A tragedy*

by Sarah Gyurina '22
A&E Contributor

The Hamilton Theatre department completed its run of *TRAGEDY: A tragedy* by Will Eno last weekend. The play had eight performances between Thursday, Nov. 7, Saturday, Nov. 9, Wednesday, Nov. 13, and Saturday, Nov. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Romano Theatre, Kennedy Center for Theatre and the Studio Arts. Directed by Professor Craig Lattrell of the Theatre Department, the play featured set design by Sara Walsh and lighting and projection by Jeff Larson.

I watched *TRAGEDY: a tragedy* on Saturday, Nov. 13 at 2:00 pm and left the Romano Theatre thinking about what felt like everything. The play reflects on the never-ending news about being on the brink of impending doom: the sun has set over America for the night, and nobody is quite sure if it will rise the next morning.

The production follows the back and forth between news correspondents. The play begins on a monitor in front of the audience, featuring Frank (Will Benthem de Grave '20), a charming anchor with an exaggerated cadence to his voice, in the studio. The scene quickly shifts to show Frank in person, alone in the stifling studio and reporting live from his desk. He is determined to maintain a façade of coolness as the world is falling apart just outside the door. Michael the legal advisor, played by Angelique Archer '20, picks up pieces of The Governor's shady correspondence, struggling with the realization that the head of state has abandoned his people. Mitchell Greene '22 played John in the Field, a reporter that reverts back to his childhood fears and memories as he is left alone in the dark, afraid that he is dying of heartworm.

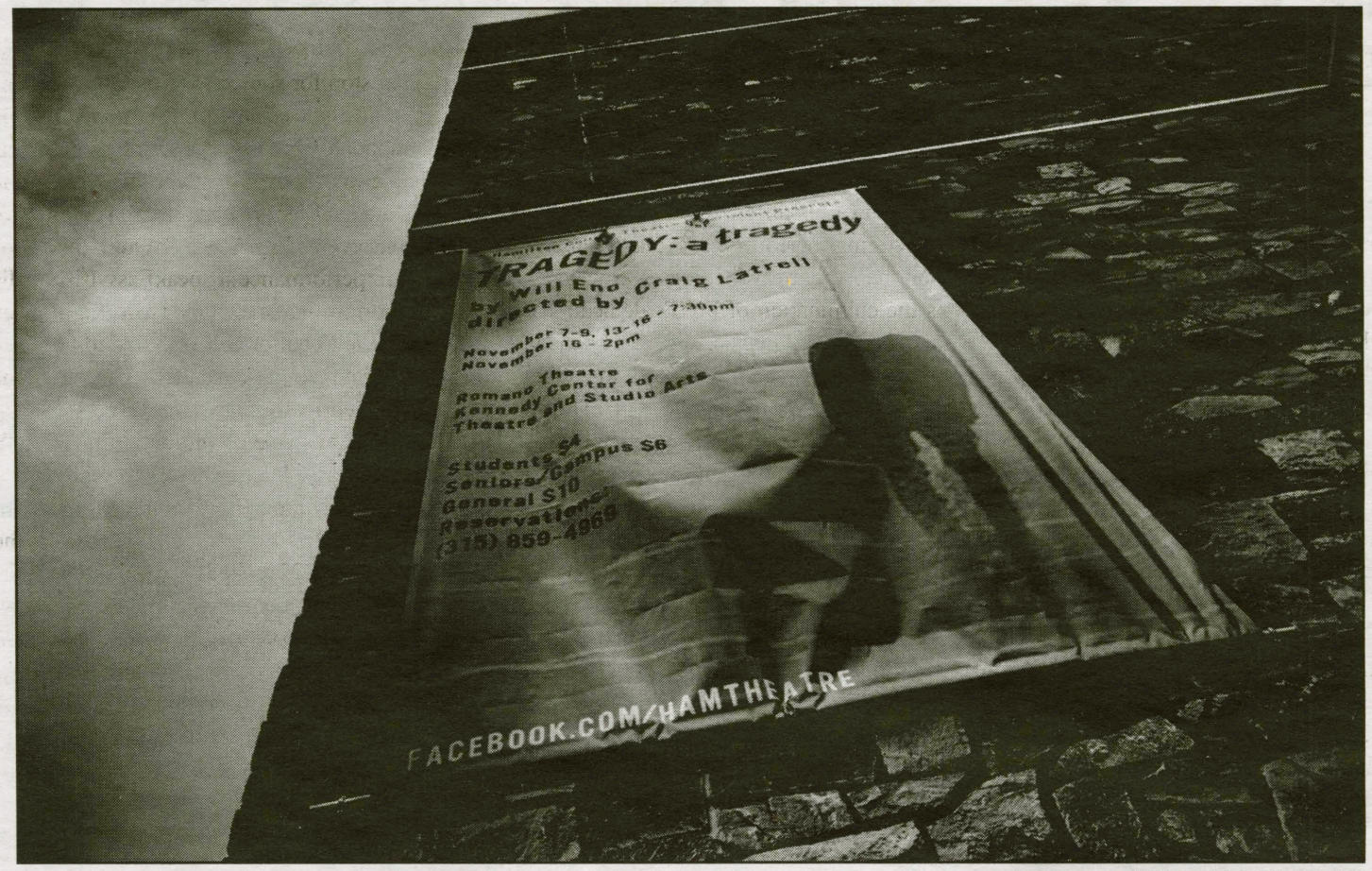


PHOTO COURTESY OF NANCY L. FORD

A massive banner to promote *TRAGEDY: A tragedy* hangs on the side of the Kennedy Center for Theatre and the Studio Arts building prior to the show's opening and two-week run of eight shows.

Finally, Constance at the House, played exceptionally by Jojo Rinehart-Jones '20, struggles to ground herself in reality, reporting on random things she comes across like a hot air balloon, a stray horse she hits with a rock, and a damp, anonymous love letter that she believes is the most beautiful thing she has ever read.

The correspondents end each of their monologues with "Frank?" or "Back to you, Frank," striving to maintain the sense of order that has been lost in their fear. Yet each of their speeches are deeply poetic, with language as rich as a Shakespearean sonnet. It is as if impending doom brings about an urgency to seize the beauty of language, clutching to the remains of humanity. While on a few occasions it felt like their acting was more Shakespearean than contemporary theatre, the actors still expressed their character's authentic truth. I was amazed by the actors' portrayals of such distinct characters on the verge of catastrophe: their ability to unearth surreal traumas, guilts, fears, and desires was truly moving.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NANCY L. FORD

Benthem de Grave '20 (Frank) and members of the show's movement ensemble rehearse an intricately-choreographed scene featuring copious amounts of milk during a technical rehearsal of *TRAGEDY: A tragedy*.

One of the most unique parts of the show is the "movers" (Jack Clark '21, Lily Delle-Levine '21, Danielle Hirsch '21, Ben Leit '22, and Cole Wright-Schaner '23), whose silhouettes move behind the scrim, lifting each other and forming shapes to reflect the words of the reporters. Sometimes the movers feel tangential, as if their movements haven't been choreographed in coordination with the main action. At critical times, however, they add a layer of theatricality and dynamism to the play. My favorite part of the movement was the "milk ballet," in which the movers come to Frank in a trance, hand him a glass of milk, then take it away in a four-minute long sequence of repetition. In that moment, the play enters a dreamscape that symbolizes Frank's contemplation of his self versus what his viewers and coworkers imagine him to be.

The play had been advertised as "hilarious," so entering the theatre, I was expecting moments of guaranteed laughter. In this respect, I was disappointed. The play starts off seriously, then nears but never quite reaches humor in the middle, before falling back to solemnity, a progression that feels underdeveloped. It is unclear whether the cause was the script or the direction, but most of my laughs felt like lip service to the misleading advertisement, as if I was supposed to laugh at moments that were just sad. The play wasn't very comical—preposterous, yes; striking, yes; moving, yes. But not "hilarious."

One aspect of the play that deserves special appreciation is the set design by Sara Walsh and Jeff Larson. Professor of Theatre Sara Walsh designed the set with an array of platforms, creating four distinct settings for each of the reporters and a space for the movers behind the scrim. The set ably lent itself to the illusion of newscaster cycle, in which the actors could speak to each other not three feet away but would never make eye contact, always gazing into the camera.

Lastly, the lighting, sound, and projection design by Theatre Faculty member Jeff Larson took the cake. At times, the studio would experience "malfunctions" or technical difficulties that were represented by static and strobe lights (this made a real malfunction of the projector on Saturday look intentional). Throughout the entire play, a montage also played on three screens behind the actors. It showed dozens of silent clips of the world before the assumed disaster—children, dogs, goldfish, nature, smiling faces, things in the nighttime and daytime—all in a constant stream of images. It felt like how your life flashes before your eyes when you die: appropriate, since for those in the play, the world could end at any moment. Bright and ever-changing, the projections were overwhelming but never a major distraction. They often reflected images of things that the actors had mentioned just moments before, which was a creative technical take on the text. Overall, the production design complemented the story well.

I genuinely enjoyed *TRAGEDY: a tragedy.* It moved me to think about how we take our lives for granted and what might we all become if we are forced to face the end of the world. The most interesting part of the script is the ambiguity: the sun has risen every day for the past couple billion years, so why shouldn't it rise tomorrow? And yet, we cannot be sure. While some moments left something to be desired, each underwhelming aspect was compensated by another redeeming factor, and it all resulted in a great play. The theatre department, design team, stage crew, and cast should be proud of themselves for a job well done.

Feminists of Color Collective hosts SpeakEasy

by Saphire Ruiz '22 and Emma Mae Regan '22
A&E Contributor and A&E Editor

On Thursday, Nov. 14 and Friday, Nov. 15, the Feminists of Color Collective (FCC) hosted its SpeakEasy program. FCC created the event nine years ago, and the FCC sponsored this year's SpeakEasy in collaboration with the Womxn's Center, BLSU, QSU, Sadove, and Student Assembly. The program also featured Dr. Crystal Endsley, Dr. Tony Keith, and Terri Moise '17. Dr. Endsley is an internationally celebrated spoken word artist and Assistant Professor of Africana Studies at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York. She is a former Hamilton professor, helped create the very first SpeakEasy, and returns every semester to facilitate the event. Dr. Keith is an educational emcee and professor of Hip-Hop, Culture, and Diversity at the University of the District of Columbia, and has been taking part in SpeakEasy for the last few years. Moise is the former chair of FCC and has returned to campus multiple times for SpeakEasy.

In recent years, FCC has been unable to sustain many of its events apart from SpeakEasy, due to shifts in leadership and advisement. This past semester its current E-board has focused on restarting FCC and reestablishing its roots and legacy. This includes ensuring that SpeakEasy continues to thrive every semester, as well as creating bonds with other groups on campus such as BLSU and Womxn's Center and increasing the organization's presence on campus. FCC now hosts meetings every week to discuss political and social topics such as environmental racism and Islamophobia as a result of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The organization plans to further its involvement on campus next semester by collaborating with other clubs on more events, hosting more spaces outside of general meetings to address political topics, and continuing to uphold the values and goals of SpeakEasy.

SpeakEasy is an established program that has become a tradition for students at Hamilton with a turnout of over 100 students, faculty, and staff, at each previous event. FCC is an organization committed to staging performances that challenge dominant political ideologies. SpeakEasy is the culmination of FCC's dedication to activism, social justice, and art as a means of effectively sending social messages. SpeakEasy happens at the end of every semester and features professional artists as well as students from the campus community. SpeakEasy's atmosphere creates a comfortable space that welcomes and embraces students from all walks of life from the Hamilton Campus.

SpeakEasy consisted of two events. During the evening of Thursday, Nov. 14, the FCC hosted the SpeakEasy Open Mic Night in the Sadove Living Room. A frame of string lights illuminated the stage, and there was a piano available for the performers. The FCC provided dinner to audience members, and the seating arrangement was structured to make movement between the stage and the audience both easy and casual.

FCC Co-Chair Saphire Ruiz '22 and Dr. Endsley opened the event. In their introduction, they talked about the origins and purposes of SpeakEasy. Additionally, they shared that the Open Mic Night would be filmed, which was a new facet to the event.

Performers could sign up to perform either before or during the event. The event consisted of about 25 performances, including poems, a cappella, raps, and piano pieces. Many performers addressed the audience during their performances. In these conversations, they explained the creative processes and personal significance of their pieces, or were candid about their thoughts.

Malik Irish '22 recited a poem he wrote called "Pit Stop." Irish described the poem as "a commentary on feeling like you were never really a long term goal or an end destination, [rather] you were more like that quick stop for someone to use for the benefits and then leave." His poem used the metaphor of buying, consuming, and throwing away candy to describe this sentiment. Although Irish has performed at other on-campus events like Apple & Quill, this was his first performance at SpeakEasy. Irish enjoyed performing at the Open Mic Night because he felt comfortable and free to go in whatever direction he wanted.

"That event really allowed me to breathe and I think that's one of the good things about SpeakEasy. It allows you to really say 'screw everything else, I'm in the moment'," said Irish.

Josten Perez '22 recited two poems that he wrote. The first poem was called "Sifting and Shifting." The poem acknowledges that people seek money because there is a lot of happiness tied to it. Perez described the poem as "a shift of focus from recognizing that money doesn't really give you happiness to embracing who you are as a person because that really makes you happy." The second poem was called "The Iron Knee." The poem was about "being in a space that is supposed to be welcoming but doesn't feel like it; it was centered around institutions that want to bring in diverse people but kind of shut them off after bringing them in, so [the diverse people's presence] is more for publicity or things of that nature." After attending SpeakEasy this past spring, Perez made a promise with his friend Dawun Smith '22 to both perform in the next SpeakEasy.

"I thought it was cool how people were expressing themselves. I know that I've been able to write well before so I wanted to challenge myself because I feel like a lot of times I kind of step back when it comes to sharing my opinion and what I want to say, so I really wanted to embrace and feel confident in that space," said Perez.

On Friday, Nov. 15, the FCC hosted the SpeakEasy poetry workshop in the Sadove Conference room. Both students and the event leaders spent a few hours participating in different poetry activities. For example, Dr. Keith led a writing exercise about black out poetry. For this style of writing, poets take a piece of literature and black out words to create a poem. Dr. Keith referred to his dissertation as an example; for his dissertation, Dr. Keith used transcripts from ten different interviews to create black out poems. He made a presentation explaining the process, showing how a transcript named "Grace 2019" turned into a poem named "Young Activist."

After Dr. Keith's demonstration, workshop participants made black out poems themselves by combining two quotes. The first quote was from Kenyan playwright, author, and activist Ngugi wa Thiong'o's book *Decolonising the Mind* (1986). The second quote was from the late writer, editor and professor Toni Morrison's novel *Beloved* (1987). After making their poems, each participant read theirs aloud to the group.

The leaders lead another writing exercise involving partner work. Participants split into groups of two and talked about an experience they had in an academic space where they were or felt excluded. While Partner A described their experience, Partner B would take notes on Partner A's description and vice versa. Afterwards, the partners would exchange notes and used only the words from those notes to create poems. The poems could relate to the experience described in the notes, or the poems could relate to an entirely different topic. The exercise concluded with each participant reading their poem aloud.

SpeakEasy is an incredibly significant and powerful event. It was shaped out of a demand for spaces on campus where students could freely and creatively express their dreams and frustrations. FCC and the SpeakEasy's sponsors are committed to SpeakEasy's legacy, strength, and potential. So long as there is a need for spaces like SpeakEasy, SpeakEasy will continue to exist.

PUSH Physical Theatre delights Hamilton audience

by R.J. Steele '23
A&E Contributor

This past Saturday, Nov. 16, members of the Hamilton community were treated to a performance from PUSH Physical Theatre in Wellin Hall. The group blended elements of dance, theatre, acrobatics, and music to great effect, resulting in a show that in many ways had to be seen to be believed.

Based out of Rochester, New York, the group's work revolves largely around the aim to "Push the boundaries of conventional theatre." Since their founding in 2000, the group has consistently done just that, winning innumerable awards including the University of Rochester's Lillian Fairchild Award and touring all around the world demonstrating their unique and deeply moving performance.

The programs they present vary wildly from long-form singular narratives, such as their critically acclaimed take on Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, to playbills involving a larger selection of many shorter and varied works, as was the type presented on campus. This show featured a selection of eight of the group's most popular pieces of choreography, which told stories and expressed meanings about everything from the challenges of parenthood, to the invention of the internet. The audience was enraptured from the moment the curtain rose not only by the acrobatic marvels on display and the beautiful music that scored it perfectly, but also by the ways in which multimedia elements were incorporated. A mix of truly spectacular lighting and video projection allowed for the performance to take on a remarkable new dimension that truly enhanced the narratives that were playing out across the stage.

Another aspect of the performance that greatly contributed to the experience was the various techniques that were layered together within the movements of the performers. Dance was of course the show's centerpiece, but layered seamlessly on top of it were absolutely incredible elements of mime, acrobatics, gravity-defying balance, and even stage combat. Through a distinct refusal to limit their performance to any one specific form, the group opens themselves up to a myriad of options that make for a show that is truly unlike anything else in the world.

Each piece was framed with an introduction by PUSH co-founder Darren Stevenson, whose brief interludes were at times comedic and ridiculous and at others heartfelt and touching, but always perfectly set the tone for what the audience was about to witness. A favorite piece of many was "The Soldier", a stunning solo performance from Stevenson revolving around his parental anxieties about his eldest son who had joined the military in the special forces. This remarkably moving piece used many theatrical elements to great effect as Stevenson portrayed the last moments of the young boy packing his bags and leaving home. Later in the piece we would see seamless transformations between images depicting a childhood left behind and the terrifying realities of war, eventually resulting in the man's death. Thankfully, as was relayed to the audience prior to the piece's beginning, Stevenson's son did not share that fate and is living with his young family now. Nevertheless, the piece served as a poignant demonstration of a parent's love and eternal commitment to their child.

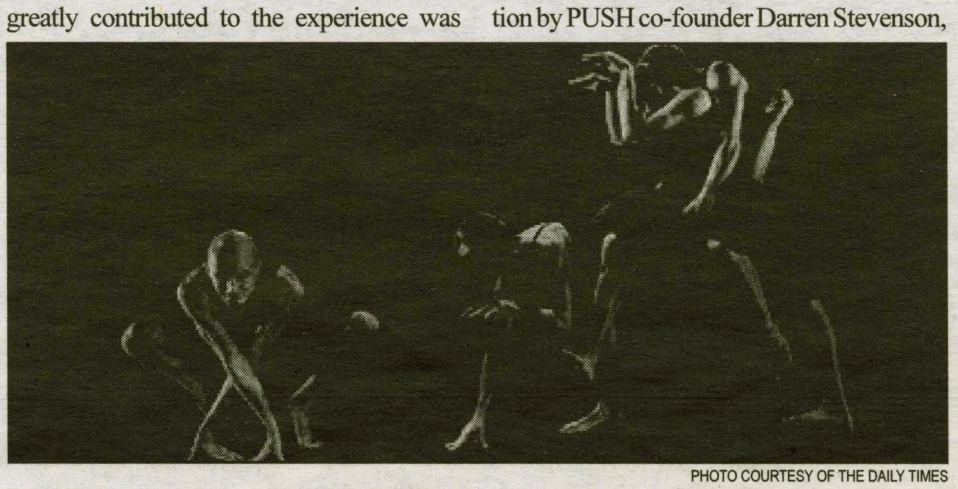


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DAILY TIMES

Members of performing arts group PUSH Physical Theatre perform one of their complex, "boundary-pushing" pieces: "The Scorpion."

In all, the show was a remarkable experience that served not only as a deeply enriching night of theatre, but also as a performance that, for many, changed the way they perceive dance as an art form.

BECAUSE HAMILTON DAY

NOV 15

CAMPUS EVENTS

Our biggest celebration yet! We're recognizing 10 years of need-blind admission with simultaneous events nationwide and on the Hill.

NOON — **SELFIE STATION at Commons**

Be one of the first to grab a Because Hamilton Day t-shirt and snap a picture for our Instagram hashtag printers.

2:30 P.M. — **S'MORES & MORE at Sadove**

Stop by for sweet treats with a side of competition. Try your hand at carnival games and claim a prize!

7:00 P.M. — **BECAUSE HAMILTON DAY PARTY at The Little Pub**

An all-Hamily celebration with students, alumni, faculty, and staff. Free food, cash bar, and entertainment by Otis Shanty and Yonic Youth.

BecauseHamilton

DAY 2019

בס"ד

Chabad Jewish Community
at Hamilton College

Rosh
HASHANAH
at the Chabad JEWISH HAMILY

Join Chabad Student Group for a family-style, warm and welcoming Rosh Hashanah experience.

Sun, Sept 29 (6 pm)
Mon, Sept 30 (6:30 pm)
Traditional brisket dinner

Mon, Sept 30 (10:30 am)
Tues, Oct 1 (10:30 am)
Inspiring and uplifting traditional services
followed by lunch

RSVP at JewishHamily.com/rosh

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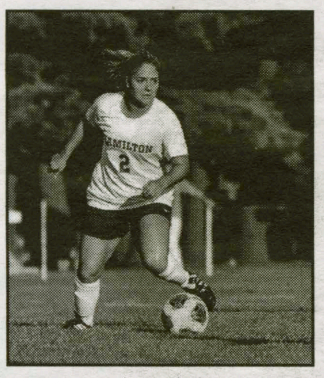
Mondays-Thursdays 6:00 p.m. – Midnight

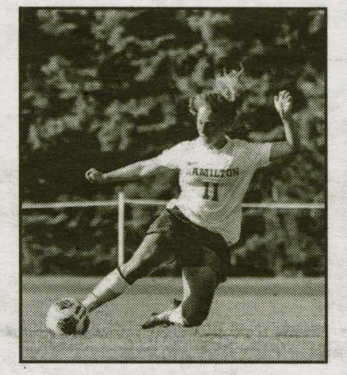
15 Hamilton athletes from fall season named to All-NESCAC teams

15 Hamilton fall athletes, representing field hockey, men's soccer, women's soccer, volleyball, and football, were honored as some of the best players in the entire conference this season. Seven of these athletes were named All-NESCAC First Team players and eight were named to the Second Team.

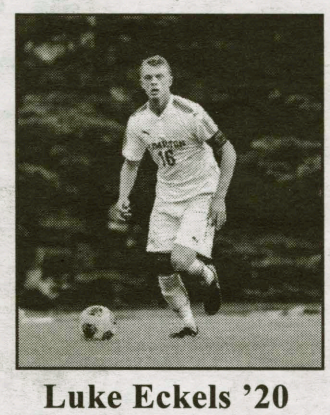
PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE



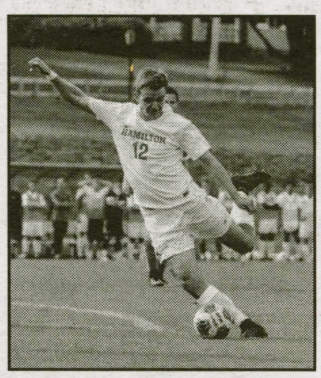
Cat Gambino '21
1st Team



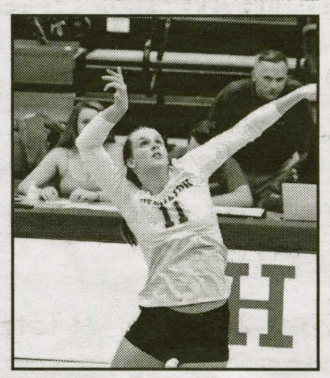
Alex Fontana '20
2nd Team



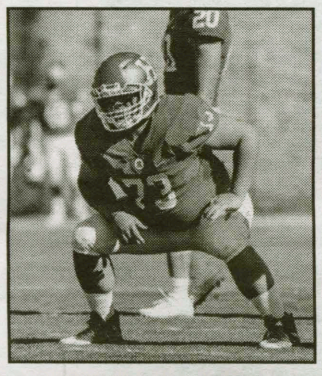
Luke Eckels '20
2nd Team



Aidan Wood '20
2nd Team

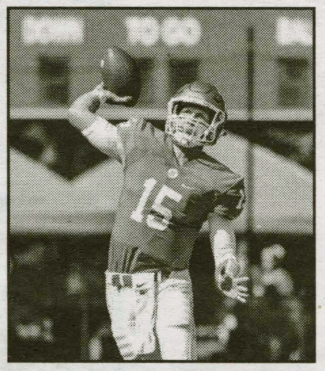


Giuliana Rankin '20
2nd Team



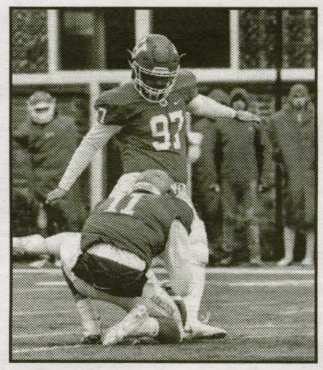
AJ Rattee '21
1st Team Offense

James Ball '21
1st Team Defense

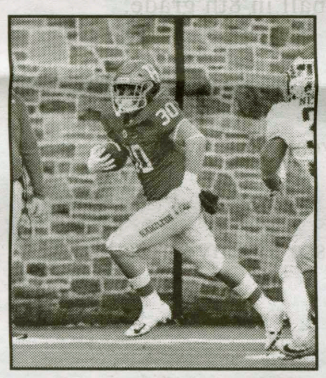


Kenny Gray '20
1st Team Special Teams

Sam Robinson '20
1st Team Special Teams

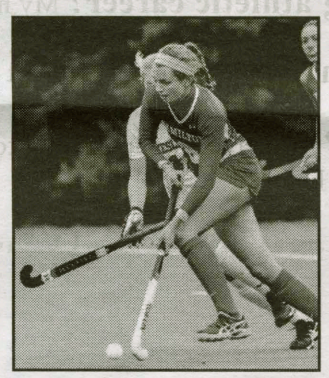


Sam Thoreen '22
1st Team Special Teams

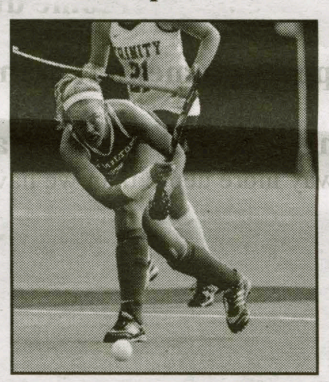


David Kagan '20
2nd Team Offense

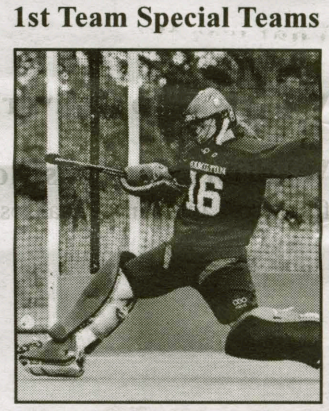
Carmine Bruno '20
2nd Team Defense



Michaela Giuttari '20
1st Team



Lizzie Clarke '20
2nd Team



Maggie Reville '22
2nd Team

Early NBA predictions and surprises

*from **NBA**, page 16*

Despite losing Macom Brodgon, an important supporting cast member from last season, they still have Brook Lopez and Khris Middleton, and opposing teams will have to stop Giannis and force the Bucks' supporting cast to take over. The Bucks are a solid contender in the East, and their title odds all depends on Giannis's ability to carry them.

Next at number four: the Philadelphia 76ers. After a brutal loss in the Eastern Conference semifinals last year in a decisive seventh game by way of an incredible buzzer-beater shot from Leonard, this team has a chip on their shoulder and is ready to fight back. Led by Simmons and Embiid, the 76ers definitely have a solid shot to make it all the way this year, but it all depends on whether they can stay healthy and if Simmons can develop his jump shot and carry them down the stretch.

At number three: the Boston Celtics. The Celtics have started off hot, and with a newfound leader in point guard Walker, they are a team to watch out for in the Eastern Conference and my favorite to make it to the finals this year out of the East. They seem to be meshing better with Kemba at the helm and are stacked across the board. Fans should look out for Boston taking home the title this year.

Number two: the Los Angeles Clippers, home to one of those aforementioned duos. George and Leonard, supported by Montrezl Harrel and Lou Williams, form a simply unfair lineup. Leonard, coming off an NBA title, is hungry for another one. This team will be hard to stop, and it will come down to a showdown in Staples Center to determine which LA team is going to the finals.

That brings me to my favorite to win it all: the Los Angeles Lakers. Despite not being as strong as an all-around team as the Clippers, the Lakers are led by two of the best players in the world right now, Davis and James. I truly believe that it will be a showdown in LA for the Western Conference title.

This year may be one of the most exciting and surprising seasons of all time, and is surely going to be chaotic and dramatic. There are many stacked teams who look to be forces this year, but when it comes to a title prediction, there is no way I'm betting against the GOAT, Lebron James.

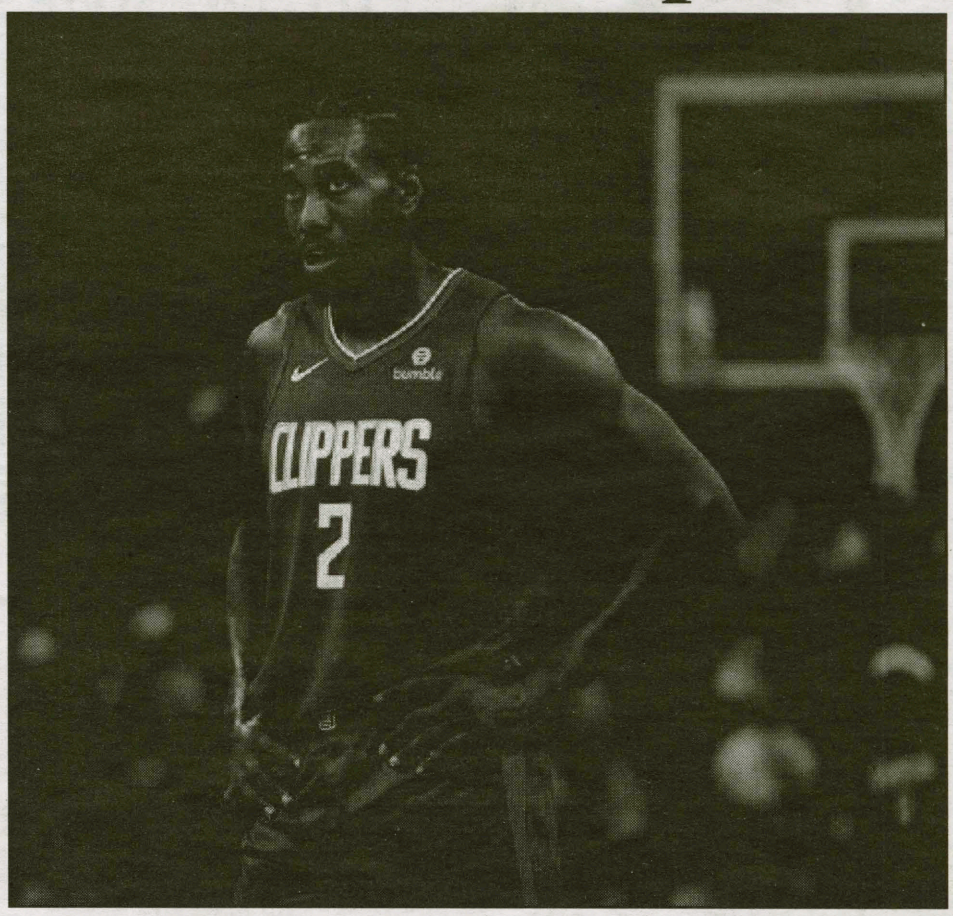


PHOTO COURTESY OF BEN MARGOT / AP PHOTO

Kawhi Leonard, reigning NBA Finals MVP, is averaging 26.8 points per game in his first season as a Los Angeles Clipper.

Athlete of the Week: Will Jordan '20

Will Jordan '20 is returning strong to the Hamilton squash team for his senior season after studying abroad during the 2018-19 school year. Jordan was the only winner during the team's matches against Middlebury College on Saturday, Nov. 16. He defeated his opponent, Finlay McInerney, 3-0 (11-2, 11-3, 12-10).

Hometown: Southborough, M.A.

Position: 9th.

Favorite Professional Athlete: Tiger Woods or Paul Coll.

How did you get introduced to squash: I went to a boarding school with a long history of squash and picked it up when I was a new junior there.

What is your favorite thing to do on campus besides your sport? Complain about there being nothing at the grill at Commons at 6:30.

What attracted you to Hamilton's squash program? Kinger had an opportunity for me to keep playing and improving in freshman year before making the top 9 as a sophomore even though I had only played two years of squash before coming to Hamilton.

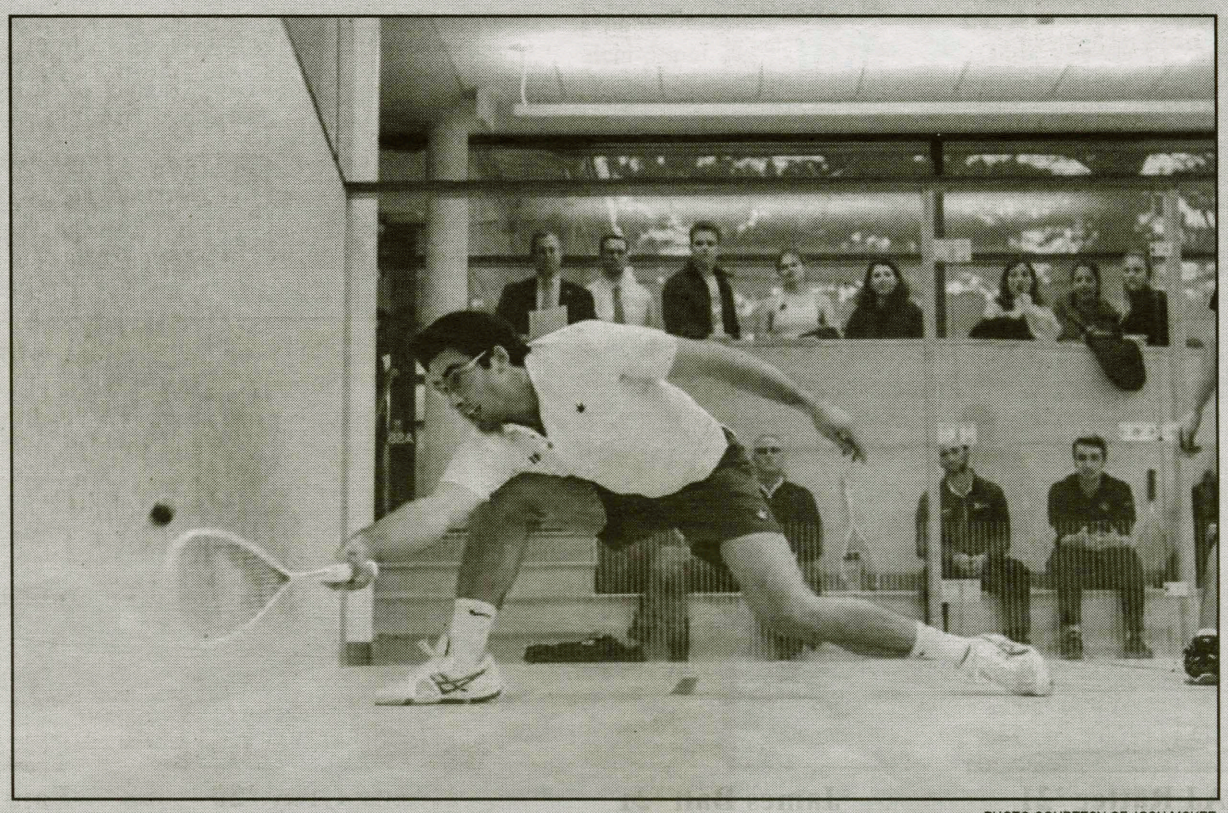


PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

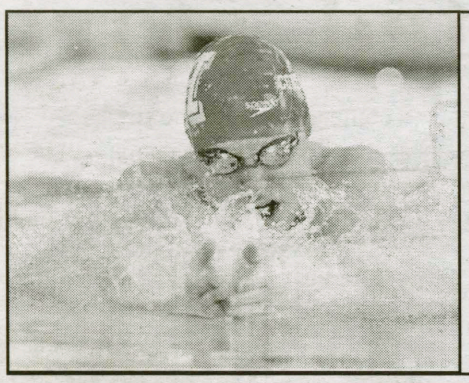
What was the toughest obstacle to overcome during athletic career? My nose got broken one time playing basketball in 8th grade.

What was your favorite sports moment at Hamilton? Winning against Hobart in five games in my sophomore year.

What are you most looking forward to this season? We have an opportunity to be the best we have been in my four years here with strong freshman and senior classes and way more depth than we have had before.

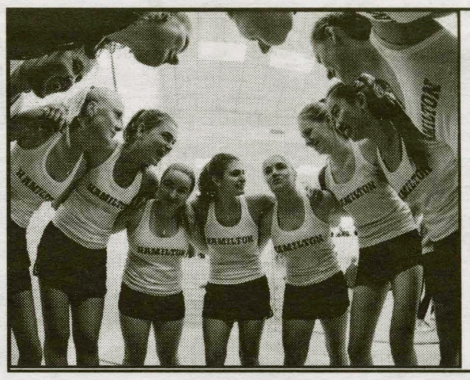
If you weren't on the squash team, what Hamilton sports team would you want to be on and why? Lacrosse to relive my glory days.

Thanksgiving break athletic events



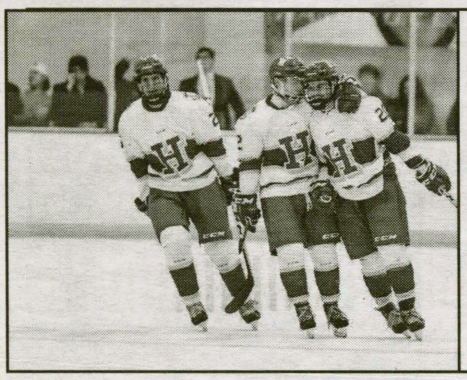
Men's and Women's Swimming

Men's and women's swim and dive are both traveling to SUNY New Paltz for a meet on Friday, Nov. 22 at 6:00 p.m. Their next home meet is against Wesleyan University in Bristol Pool on Saturday, Jan. 4 at 2:00 p.m.



Men's and Women's Squash

The squash teams are traveling this upcoming weekend for matches against Bowdoin College and Williams College. Their next home competition will be Saturday, Feb. 1 against Colby College in the Little Squash Center.



Men's Ice Hockey

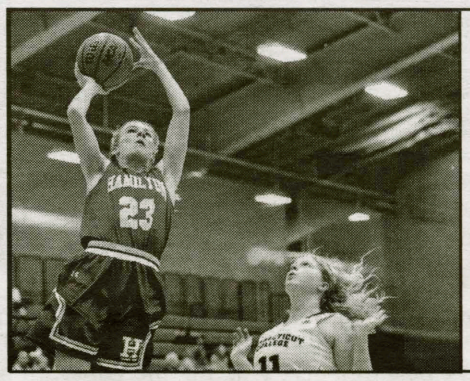
The men's ice hockey team will take on Wesleyan University on Friday, Nov. 22 at 7:00 p.m. and No. 8 Trinity College on Saturday, Nov. 23 at 3:00 p.m. on Hamilton's Russell Sage Rink.

Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team will play at Keene State on Saturday, Nov. 23 before traveling to California over Thanksgiving to take on Caltech on Wednesday, Nov. 27 and California Lutheran on Friday, Nov. 29.

Women's Ice Hockey

Women's hockey will go up against Williams College in Williamstown, M.A. on Friday, Nov. 22 and Saturday, Nov. 23. They will then return to Hamilton to play non-conference opponent Morrisville State on Russell Sage Rink on Tuesday, Nov. 26 at 1:00 p.m.



Women's Basketball

Women's basketball is traveling to SUNY Plattsburgh for the Cardinal Classic tournament, where they will go up against two non-conference regional teams on Friday, Nov. 22 and Saturday, Nov. 23. They will then travel to Nazareth College for a 5:00 p.m. game on Tuesday, Nov. 26.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
November 21, 2019

Taking stock of the NBA season: superstar duos dominate the league

by Cole Kuczek '23
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After one of the most exciting offseasons in recent memory this past summer, the NBA is shaping up to be filled with surprises and chaos in the burgeoning season.

This year has already been defined as the "Year of Duos." The summer saw Anthony Davis and LeBron James team up on the Los Angeles Lakers, Kawhi Leonard and Paul George go to the Los Angeles Clippers, Kevin Durant and Kyrie Irving head to the Brooklyn Nets, and Russell Westbrook join James Harden in Houston.

And these are just the headliners — there are even more elite duos, like Luka Doncic and Kristaps Porzingis for the Dallas Mavericks, Joel Embiid and Ben Simmons for the Philadelphia 76ers, and Jamal Murray and Nikola Jokic on the Denver Nuggets. Making predictions can be confusing with all these big names being thrown around; at its essence, though, this is the year of superstars pairing up to compete for a title.

Even these monumental moves, however, were perhaps not even the most exciting part of the offseason. Someone who may have taken away the spotlight was Zion Williamson, who is quite possibly the most hyped NBA prospect since LeBron James was drafted in 2003.

Coming out of Duke University, the 6-foot-6-inch, 285-pound juggernaut has been dominating opponents since high school and was drafted by the New Orleans Pelicans with the first overall pick — and deservedly so. Williamson dominated in preseason, but we have not been graced by his presence yet in the regular season as he has been out with a torn lateral meniscus. The 2019 draft was also highlighted by standouts Ja Morant, RJ Barrett, and Cam Reddish, just to name a few.

Yet this season has started off differently than fans of the past few seasons are used to. The Golden State Warriors — the same Warriors who have won three of the past five NBA Championships — have started 2-12, good for dead last in the Western Conference (though star guard Steph Curry has been out with a wrist injury.) The script has essentially been flipped; the formerly lowsome Lakers — now led by James, arguably the greatest player in NBA history — have taken over as the best team in the West thus far.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RINGO H.W. CHIU / ASSOCIATED PRESS

LeBron James leads the NBA in assists with 11.1 per game and recently became the first player to ever record a triple double against all 30 teams.

Other surprises include the Boston Celtics and the Miami Heat, who already sport great records in the Eastern Conference. Both made strong additions in the offseason in the form of Kemba Walker and Jimmy Butler, respectively.

All-Stars aside, some teams have emerged already as favorites for the title, and here are my power rankings for the best odds to win the chip this year.

I'll start with my Honorable Mentions, the Denver Nuggets and the Houston Rockets. Despite the fact that these two powerhouses are led by MVP candidates, I believe they'll come up short. The Nuggets frankly do not have the experience, while the philosophy of Coach Mike D'Antoni of the Rockets will not be enough to take home the championship this year. Now on to my top five rankings.

At number five: the Milwaukee Bucks. Led by reigning MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo, the Bucks have looked strong thus far.

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Men's and women's swim and dive dominant in undefeated starts

by Brent Schoeller '21
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Both the men's and women's swim teams had two meets this past weekend. They faced Utica College on Friday, Nov. 15 and Trinity College on Saturday, Nov. 16. The Continentals are undefeated, the men winning both of their dual meets, and the women defeating Utica handedly and then tying with Trinity. It was a great way to start the season for both teams, and it will be exciting to see what they will achieve next.

The men were absolutely dominant on Friday night against Utica College. They won every single event in the meet except one. In his first swim meet as a Continental, Nate Hays '23 won three individual events. He won the 100-yard butterfly, narrowly beating his teammate Nick Wilkins '22 by 0.08 seconds. Hays also won the 500-yard freestyle by a margin of 20 seconds, and the 100-yard individual medley by one second.

Wilkins had an impressive performance himself, winning the 200-yard freestyle and leading off the 200-yard freestyle relay, which inched out the victory over the Hamilton B relay.

It was also a great start to the season for Will Brindisi '22, who won two events, the 1000-yard freestyle and the 100-yard backstroke. The team pulled off a dominant 207-63 win.

The women won by an even larger amount, 240-42.

Sadie Logan '20 was the standout swimmer for the women's team, winning three individual events. She won the 200-yard freestyle by six seconds, the 100-yard freestyle by almost a second, and the 100-yard individual medley by a second. She also led off the winning 200-freestyle relay with Julia Martin '21, Kenzie Burton '22, and Sam Karlson '23. Martin had a successful meet as well, winning both the breaststroke events. It was a fantastic way for the team to begin the season over an opponent that was completely outmatched.

The men beat the Bantams of Trinity College 144 to 117. Three different swimmers won two individual events, which shows the depth of the team going forward. Evan Tatro '20 won the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 54.52 and the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 53.67. He was also a part of the winning 400 medley and freestyle relays.

Wilkins had another successful performance, winning the 200-yard butterfly by four seconds and the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 49.35, very impressive for this early in the season. Hays built on the momentum that he created for himself after the first meet by winning the 200-yard breaststroke and the 400-yard individual medley. It was a solid defeat of a NESCAC opponent for the men's team.

The women also faced off against Trinity College on Saturday. The meet ended with a rare 149-149 tie. Logan again was successful. She won two individual events, the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:00.63 and the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 2:13.97.

Karlson also impressed in her second collegiate meet winning two individual events as well. She won the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 2:00.53, and she also won the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 55.21. This meet really came down to the wire as every event was critical until the end.

The team was able to edge out Trinity's 400-yard freestyle relay by four seconds to tie the meet. This relay team consisted of Martin, Karlson, Logan, and Merdith Gioia '22. Though they would have enjoyed the win, the women fought back with all they could in the last event to come away with the tie.

Both of the swim teams will be back in action against SUNY New Paltz this Friday, Nov. 22, and are surely looking to continue their winning ways.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Sadie Logan '20 won three events against Utica College on Nov. 15. She also contributed to a winning relay for the team.